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CLASSIFICATION

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY INFORMATION REPORT REPORT NO.

CD NO.

COUNTRY China

DATE DISTR.

19 Oct. 1950

SUBJECT

Statement of CHOU En-lai on United States Capabilities in the Korean War

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SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

In an address in early August before 200 especially invited persons, most of whom were Communist Government officials in Peiping, CHOU En-lai stated that the United States must mobilize 300,000 troops to achieve the decision in Korea. As it would take one year to mobilize these men, by which time the military strength "on our side" would be much greater, victory for the Communists in Korea is inevitable.

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Comment. This speech, made at the time when United Nations forces had been driven back to the southeast tip of the Korean peninsula, is an indication of the enormous miscalculation of the strength of the United States the Chinese Communists were making. They were believing their own propaganda to the effect that America is a paper tiger.

This document is hereby regraded to CONFIDENTIAL in accordance with the letter of 16 October 1978 from the Director of Contral Intelligence to the Archivist of the United States.

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